

King's Children.

THE PROGRESS OF THE KING'S CHILDREN SOCIETY IN LANARK.

[Read at the Union meeting at the Brethren Church June 18, 1895, by Mrs. Etta Arnold Ekerley.]

Having been appointed to give this paper, I will try, yet I feel it is more than could be expected of one who has had so little experience in the work.

Jan. 1, 1892 a little band of our brethren and sisters met, and organized a Young Peoples' Bible meeting, with but two officers, Brother Shively as president, and sister Lizzie Plum as secretary, and with a membership of about thirty. After some time need was felt of more workers, as Christ said to his disciples, "The harvest is plenteous, but the laborers are few," and consequently three committees were chosen,—a Lookout Committee, Floral Committee, and Christian Service Committee.

The Bible meeting was first held by the president, for several months, when he saw fit to put it into the hands of our young people, for it was a Young Peoples Bible Meeting.

They met every Sunday evening, performing well the object of the meetings, to promote an earnest Christian life among its members, to increase their mutual acquaintance, and to make them more useful in the service of God. Dec. 31, 1893, this Young Peoples' Bible Society adopted the constitution prepared by brother J. O. Talley, and became the Lanark King's Children. Sister Emma Puterbaugh was elected president and has served ably ever since with the exception of a three months' service by sister Lizzie Brenaman. Five committees were then chosen,—the Program, Floral, Membership, Christian Service, and Invitation Committees. These committees have done good work, preparing programs for literary meetings, visiting the sick and poor, securing new members, and carrying flowers to the sick room.

Here is a report found in the secretary's book given by a sister, a member of the Christian Service Committee. Made nineteen visits in three months, and eighteen times took something to eat and drink. Also sat up several nights with the sick. This was done by one sister,—who lives on a farm and has plenty of work there too.

About a year ago a committee was elected to place our church literature in the depot, Brother Webers barber shop and in the Young Mens club room. Who, but God, can tell the good done in this line? We may not always see the results but we may know some good seeds have

been sown, where in due season they will spring up and bear fruit.

We now have an enrollment of seventy-five. Thirty-one of these have become members of the church. King's Children should take a decided stand against Kings Alcohol, Nicotine, and worldly pleasure, and should especially set their faces against profanity, Sabbath desecration and social distinction from consideration of the parental standing, financially or otherwise. It should work for an ideal church and state, and the giant evils there show us that there is need of great conquests yet to be made. When not a boy or girl, not a man or woman within the reach of our King's Children societies can be found but who is an enemy to intemperance, to defilement of body and soul with tobacco, to the debasing influence of dissipation, to the taking of God's name in vain, to the breaking of the Sabbath,—then and then only,—ought or dare our progress stop. It must go on until there are none who can not and do not participate in both public and private prayer, and praise service, until the Lord shall indeed have praise from the mouths of babes.

Yes, we meet week after week, reading God's word, talking of his goodness and love to us, and what we owe to him. We see many good results of our labors, but true,—how often we wonder why we are not rewarded more abundantly. The question then arises, do we who are enlisted in this cause give it the attention and thought at all times that we should? Do we do this work simply because we feel it our duty or do we do it, for the love of our work? Do we, as the *The King's Children*, have but one aim, to honor our king,—or to honor self? Is it "All of self, and none of thee," or is it, "None of self and all of thee." It seems to me here lies the secret of our success in this, as in all other lines of Christian service—that we rely not upon ourselves, but upon God, and in proportion as we put ourselves into his hands, and let him work within us, "to will and to do of his good pleasure," will we succeed.

If I can but impress this one thought upon our minds and hearts to-day, in this the work of our King's Children—then I am repaid for this effort. If we could but think and feel the truth of these words, "Thou God seest me" every time we enter our King's Children service, would we not be able to get yet nearer to Jesus.

From the number then who have enrolled as King's Children, showing at least enough love for the king to choose the society of his children, and the num-

bers who have entered the higher school of the Lord, the church, where a more perfect obedience is enjoyed, and many great and precious promises obtained,—and from the increasing knowledge and facility with which the King's Children engage in prayer and song service,—show us that our labor in the Lord, has not been in vain.

THOUGHTS AS WE THINK THEM.

The Convention at Ashland was a great success. In this case, especially the word great means good.

The King's Children session in the convention, was the best of all the sessions, and would have been better still if we had had time to render all our program. This work lays near the hearts of all our noble and self-sacrificing workers; God loves his children, hence the rich blessing he bestows.

There is a power in the small resources of the church when they are properly husbanded. And to husband these resources is the especial work of the King's Children Society.

Pastors who attended the convention, could not but see that the K. C's. were doing a solid work for the Master.

Brethren McFaden and Gnagey, of the Book and Tract work were not less happy over the success of the work of the past year, than the many others who expressed the joys of their hearts, on the floor of the convention. But brethren, we will never forget those two short speeches, and the happy vein in which they were given.

That was not a donation, it was only placing the monies where they belonged. For the good that was done the past year, give thanks to God alone, and not to us.

THINGS NOTICED AT THE CONVENTION.

The Holy Spirit was present, and we saw of his peace and power. The general work is getting better organized, and is consequently working more effectively. Our brethren are growing in grace and consequently in power.

In the King's Children work and College work, all our best and noblest workers are getting their shoulders against the wheels, and soon we will give a mighty push, and saints on earth and angels in heaven will rejoice, as these mighty chariots of the Lord go rolling on to conquest and to conquer.

Our new Topic Card, gotten out by the Book and Tract Committee, is the prettiest that we have ever seen, and the topics are the most beautifully arranged. We thank Brother Gnagey for his good taste shown in the arrangement and design.

We notice in EVANGELIST No. 36, the